

Yali language

Yali (Yaly, Jalè, Jaly) is a Papuan language of Indonesian New Guinea. The Yali people live east of the Baliem Valley, in the Western Highlands.

Dialectical differentiation is great enough that *Ethnologue* assigns separate codes to three varieties:

- Pass Valley, also known as Abendago, North Ngalik, and Western Yali; subdialects are Pass Valley, Landikma, Apahapsili.
- Ninia, also known as North Ngalik and Southern Yali (Yali Selatan).
- Angguruk, also known as Northern Yali.

However, almost nothing is known of this language. Not even the pronouns were attested for Ross (2005) to base a classification on. With this said, new data is currently being elicited from correspondence between Quinn Cunningham and Felix Neckweck.

Siegfried Zoellner, a German missionary, has between 1960 and 1973 translated the bible into the Yali language.

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Phonology

The phonology of the Yali language^[3]:

Yali	
<i>Yalimo</i>	
Native to	Indonesia
Region	Highlands of Irian Jaya
Ethnicity	Yali
Native speakers	(30,000 cited 1988–1999) ^[1]
Language family	Trans–New Guinea <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ West Trans–New Guinea<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Irian Highlands ?<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Dani languages<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Ngalik<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Yali
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Variously: <div>yli – Anggurk Yali</div> <div>n1k – Ninia Yali</div> <div>yac – Pass Valley Yali</div>
Glottolog	yali1257 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/yali1257) ^[2]

Consonants

		<u>Bilabial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Plosive</u>	voiced	b	d		k/g	
	prenasal	mb	nd		ŋg	
	aspirated	p ^h	t ^h			
<u>Fricative</u>		f	s			h
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n			
<u>Lateral</u>			l			
<u>Implosive</u>			ɗ			
<u>Approximant</u>		w		j		

A /g/ sound at the end of words is pronounced /ʁ/.

Vowels

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>
<u>Close</u>	i		u
<u>Mid</u>	e		o
<u>Low</u>		a	

Basic words and phrases

The following is a list of basic words and phrases in the Yali language:

- howam fano wellahen - how are you
- waa waa - thank you
- ninim ar - you're welcome
- nomin - friend
- fano - good
- ari - that
- du - this
- eke - and
- nune - speak/talk
- inune - language
- nare - man
- nowam - my news/state
- howam - your (sg.) news/state
- wellahi - for myself
- wellahen - for yourself
- wallahen - for him/herself
- wallahi - for ourselves
- wellahep - for yourselves/themselves
- fam - *end of statement particle
- an nahien - I am pleased

- an ari nindi - I like that
- an den angge - I have
- ar an nomin - S/he is my friend
- ir an nomini - They are my friends
- ar nomin fano - S/he is a good friend
- ir an nomini Amerikoan - My friends are from America
- an nune Yali inune fam - I speak Yali

Pronouns

Personal pronouns of the Yali language

Free pronouns

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<u>1st person</u>	an	nir
<u>2nd person</u>	har	hir
<u>3rd person</u>	ar	ir

References

1. Anggurk Yali (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/yli/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Ninia Yali (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/nlk/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
Pass Valley Yali (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/yac/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
 2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Yalic" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/yali1257>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
 3. Fahner, Christiaan (1979). *The Morphology of Yali and Dani: A Descriptive and Comparative Analysis*.
- - Ross, Malcolm (2005). "Pronouns as a preliminary diagnostic for grouping Papuan languages". In Andrew Pawley; Robert Attenborough; Robin Hide; Jack Golson (eds.). *Papuan pasts: cultural, linguistic and biological histories of Papuan-speaking peoples*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics. pp. 15–66. ISBN 0858835622. OCLC 67292782 (<https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/67292782>).

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